IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

the Application of: Kenji NISHI, et al.

Group Art Unit: Unassigned

Serial No.: 10/718,728

Examiner: Unassigned

Filed: November 24, 2003

Confirmation No.:

AN EXPOSED APPARATUS, EXPOSURE METHOD USING THE SAME, AND

METHOD OF MANFACTURE OF CIRCUIT DEVICE

Attorney Docket No.: 991185B Customer Number: 38834

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(b)

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

March 2, 2004

Sir:

Applicants direct the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. A copy of each listed document is attached.

No fee or certification is required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement, because it is being submitted prior to the issuance of a first official action on the merits or expiration of the three month period following the filing date or the entry of the national stage of the above-captioned application.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. Applicants respectfully request that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

Response under 37 C.F.R. §1.111 Attorney Docket No. 991185B Serial No. 10/718,728

The Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 50-2866 for any fee that is required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP

Thomas E. Brown Attorney for Applicants Registration No. 44,450

TEB/jnj 1250 Connecticut Avenue, NW Suite 700 Washington, D.C. 20036 (202) 822-1100 (t) (202) 822-1111 (f)

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Examiner Initial	Document No.	Date	Country	Translation (Yes or No)
	EP 0 766 144 A1	4/97	Europe	Yes – Abstract
	<u> </u>			

OTHER DOCUMENTS

	Supplementary European Search Report dated January 23, 2004 for the corresponding European Patent Application.
Examiner	Date Considered